

H.A

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/708,539

Examiner

Ingrid Wright

Applicant(s)

WU ET AL.

Art Unit

2835

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 3/10/04.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-20.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

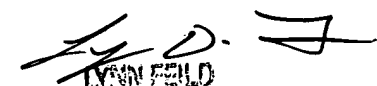
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


LYNN FIELD
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

2. Claims 1-20 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The allowability resides in the overall structure of the device as recited in independent claim 1, and at least in part, because claim 1 and 11 recites: "wherein when the elastic structure is pressed down, the stop component of the elastic structure does not wedge in the fixing hole on the storage device fixture so that the portable storage device can be separated from the computer, and when the elastic structure is not pressed down and is restored to the original location, the stop component of the elastic structure wedges in the fixing hole on the storage device fixture so as to fix the portable storage device inside the computer." The aforementioned limitations in combination with all remaining limitations of claim 1 and 11 are believed to render the claim and all claims dependent therefrom patentable over the art of record.

US 6366457 B1 to Otto et al. is the closest reference to the present invention, disclosed (Fig. 3) a fixing hole (14), storage module (12), a bracket (10), a elastic structure (42) but did not disclose the elastic structure when pressed down, the stop component of the elastic structure does not wedge I the

Art Unit: 2835

fixing hole on the storage device fixture so that the portable storage device can be separated from the computer, and when the elastic structure is not pressed down and is restored to the original location, the stop component of the elastic structure wedges in the fixing hole on the storage device fixture so as to fix the portable storage device inside the computer.

The Examiner has cited the following pertinent to the present invention references:

US 2004/0190266 A1, US 2004/0075978 A1, US 6781841 B2, US 6791829 B1, US 5519571, US 6840801 B1, 6853549 B2, US 5406,450, US 6826044 B2, US 6891723 B1, US 20040100762 A1, US 2004/0095717 A1, US 6925246 B1, US 6862178 B2, US 6614654 B2, US 2005/0052841 A1, US 6826045 B2 & US 6862174 B2 disclosed storage devices in bracket and removable hard disk or device casing configurations.

None of the cited references either alone or in combination is believed to render the present invention unpatentable as claimed.

4. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

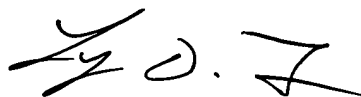
Art Unit: 2835

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ingrid Wright whose telephone number is (571) 272-8392. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lynn Feild can be reached on (571) 72-2800, ext 35. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

IDW


LYNN FEILD
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800